

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated March 22, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on June 22, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application. Claims 9-24, 26-27 and 29-31 remain pending following entry of this response. Claims 9-17, 24, 27 and 29-30 have been amended. Claims 1-8, 25 and 28 have been canceled. Applicants submit that the amendments and new claims do not introduce new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 9-23, 25, 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

With respect to claims 9, 17, 25, 28, and their dependents, the Examiner observes that the claims recite a "second view of data." The Examiner then states that "[t]he claims and the specification do not show how this view is obtained or what is meant by second view." Applicants respectfully submit that the claims and the specification do teach what is meant by "a second view of data." The specification gives an example, in exactly the same terms, of a second view of data. Paragraph 39 of the specification states:

After an annotation has been attached to a first view of data via operations 302-306, operations 308-312 may be performed to determine if the annotation should be displayed for a second (subsequent) view of data. At step 308, a query is issued to generate a second view of data. At step 310, a determination is made as to whether all cells visible in annotated portion of the first view of data are also visible in the second view of data. (Specification, Paragraph 39).

This use of the phrase “second view of data” illustrates that the “second view of data” element is present in the specification.

Examples of a first view of data and a second view of data can be seen in Figures 4A and 4D of the specification. Figure 4A illustrates a first view of data 122A which contains columns and rows of data to be annotated. Furthermore, Figure 4D illustrates a second view of data 122D that may be generated in response to a query. As illustrated, some of the data in the second view (Figure 4D) is the same as the annotated data in the first view (Figure 4A). Furthermore, as illustrated in Figure 4D an indication of an annotation 435 is present, for example, in response to a predetermined set of the annotated cells present in the first view also being present in the second view.

Therefore, it is believed that claims 9, 17, 25 and 28 and their dependents are allowable, and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have canceled claims 1-8, thus rendering this rejection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1, 9, 17 and 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended claims 9, 17 and 24-27. Applicants submit these claims, as amended, are directed to statutory subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-10, 12-22 and 24-30 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Bays et al.* (US 2003/0018632).

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

In this case, *Bays* does not disclose "each and every element as set forth in the claim." For example, with respect to independent claims 9, 17, 24 and 27, *Bays* does not disclose "analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the annotated portion of the first view of data." The Examiner argues that *Bays* discloses "analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the referenced portion of the first view of data," referring to Figure 2, and paragraph 38, lines 10-14.

However, Figure 2 does not disclose "analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the referenced portion of the first view of data." Furthermore, paragraph 38, lines 10-14 of *Bays* does not disclose the claim limitation. Figure 2 of *Bays* simply illustrates an interface containing data, and Paragraph 38, lines 10-14 simply discusses the number of annotations which can be made for a data object and who can annotate a data object. Therefore, neither the cited portions of *Bays*, nor any other portion, disclose "analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the referenced portion of the first view of data."

Analyzing the second view of data, as recited in the claims, allows an annotation made for a first view of data to be automatically displayed (or otherwise indicated) when a second view of data contains a common set of objects also contained in the annotated portion of the first view of data, as illustrated in Figures 4A and 4D described above. A

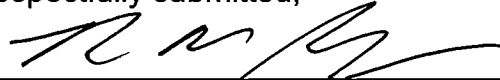
first view of data is illustrated in Figure 4A and a second view of data is illustrated in Figure 4D of the pending application. In Figure 4D, an indication of an annotation 122D created for a portion of the first view of data is displayed, in response to “analyzing the second view of data to identify sub-objects visible in both the second view of data and the referenced portion of the first view of data” as recited in the claims. The second view of data shown in Figure 4D contains rows of columns A, B, and C, which were contained in the annotated portion of the first view of data. In contrast, the view of data shown in Figure 4C does not contain column C and, therefore, in this example, the annotation created for the first view of data is not indicated.

Because Bays fails to teach each and every element of claims 9, 17, 24 and 27, Applicants submit these claims and their dependents are allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Randol W. Read
Registration No. 43,876
PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant(s)